AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-34-606,
relative to creditable retirement service.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-34-606(a)(2), is amended by deleting the same in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(2) The member must be reemployed by such employer within one (1) year following the leave period and remain so employed for at least one (1) year thereafter. For purposes of this subdivision, any member who is a state employee, a teacher employed in a state-supported institution of higher education or a kindergarten through twelfth grade public school teacher who is on educational leave of absence pursuant to this section shall be deemed to have met the provisions of this subdivision (2) if the member returns to service as either a state employee, a teacher employed in a state-supported institution of higher education or a kindergarten through twelfth grade public school teacher within one (1) year following the leave period and remains so employed for at least one (1) year thereafter;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-34-606(a)(5), is amended by adding the following new sentence at the end thereof:

Notwithstanding this subdivision, the total amount of retirement credit the member may establish for educational leave of absence shall not exceed an aggregate of four (4) years during the member's working career if the member receives a competitive award from the national aeronautics and space administration, the national institutes of health, the national science foundation, the national endowment for the humanities, the national endowment for the arts or the Fulbright Program.

SECTION 3. The provisions of this act shall be subject to the funding being provided in the General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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